

Appendix A

Description of Agencies' Planning Process

This Health and Human Services (HHS) System Strategic Plan for 2015–2019 is the sixth plan developed since the consolidation of HHS agencies according to House Bill 2292, 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003. It addresses requirements for the Coordinated Strategic Plan (CSP) required by Texas Government Code, Section 531.022, and the biennial Strategic Plans of Operation required by Texas Government Code, Chapter 2056.

In February 2014, the HHSC Executive Commissioner convened an executive planning session with HHS System agency commissioners and HHSC deputies. The attendees discussed cross-agency issues and individual agency challenges and opportunities. From these discussions, the HHS System Strategic Priorities were identified and refined, outlining high-level directions that the HHS System agencies will take to address the challenges and opportunities during the five-year planning period of 2015–2019. The HHS System Strategic Priorities are listed in Chapter 2 of this Strategic Plan.

As with the previous planning cycle, the HHSC planning staff was assigned to coordinate with HHSC divisions and the four HHS System agencies. Leadership in each of the agencies and divisions appointed a liaison to act as a single point of contact for planning responsibilities and activities. Liaisons were responsible for obtaining necessary departmental information and approval. In the draft Plan that was developed, each agency has its own Strategic Plan chapter and contributes shared material to the CSP portion of the Plan, Chapters 2 through 4.

A draft of the Strategic Plan was posted on the HHS website in May 2014, to enable public review and comment. Comments were received via electronic mail and as testimony at public hearings. To address the CSP statutory requirement for public hearings, the HHS agencies held a hearing in a rural area of the state and conducted a statewide videoconference. The rural hearing was held in Fredericksburg on May 29, 2014. A statewide videoconference was conducted on June 3, 2014, providing stakeholders an opportunity to gather at HHSC regional offices in Abilene, Austin, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Edinburg, El Paso, Grand Prairie, Houston, Lubbock, San Antonio, and Tyler.

Agency councils were briefed on the planning process, and council members provided feedback at meetings held from February through June 2014. Council members also participated in the public hearings process.

In June 2014, the draft document was revised with public input considered, and the final Strategic Plan was submitted by the July 7, 2014 deadline.